

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

36. (Amended) A method for determining whether a compound is capable of inhibiting or disrupting an interaction between a first polypeptide and a second polypeptide said method comprising:

- (a) (i) incubating said first polypeptide with said second polypeptide under conditions which allow the first polypeptide to bind to the second polypeptide to form a complex; and bringing the complex thus formed into contact with a candidate compound; or
- (ii) incubating said first polypeptide with said second polypeptide in the presence of a candidate compound under conditions which would allow the first polypeptide to bind to the second polypeptide in the absence of the candidate compound; and
- (b) determining if said candidate compound inhibits or disrupts binding of the first polypeptide to the second polypeptide;

wherein said first polypeptide comprises a TRAM sequence consisting essentially of the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and said second polypeptide is a human papillomavirus (HPV) polypeptide comprising a TRIM sequence which binds to a said TRAM sequence.

40. (Amended) The method according to claim 36 wherein said HPV polypeptide is E6.

41. (Amended) The method according to claim 36 wherein said first polypeptide is a polypeptide found in eukaryotic cells.

C3 43. (Amended) The method according to claim 41 wherein said eukaryotic polypeptide is selected from mdm2, CBP, and p300.

45. (Amended) A method for identifying a compound which interacts with a polypeptide comprising a TRAM sequence consisting essentially of the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and/or a HPV polypeptide comprising a TRIM sequence which binds to a said TRAM sequence, which method comprises:

- C4
- (a) incubating a candidate compound with a polypeptide comprising a TRAM sequence and/or TRIM sequence under suitable conditions; and
 - (b) determining if said candidate compound interacts with said polypeptide comprising a TRAM sequence and/or a TRIM sequence.

Add the following new claims.

Sub. E4 56. (New) The method according to claim 36 wherein said first polypeptide is p300 and said HPV polypeptide is an E6 polypeptide.

C5 57. (New) The method according to claim 36 wherein said second polypeptide comprises the sequence of amino acids 113 to 147 of SEQ ID NO: 18.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.